



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

**Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board
Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council
June 09, 2014**

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First – Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council was held on June 09, 2014 in the Early Literacy Room at the Safford Public Library, 808 South Seventh Avenue, Safford, AZ 85546.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 1:05 p.m.

Regional Council Members Present in person:

Pam Patt, Laurie Smith, Ann Johnson, Ryan Henry, Stacy Morris, Donna McGaughey, Susan Norton

Regional Council Members Absent:

Jan Elliott, JoAnn Morales, Dena Barentine, and Dr. Richard Keith

Call to the Public

Chair Smith announced Call to the Public. There was no response.

Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Chair Smith requested Regional Council members review the agenda items and declare any possible Conflicts of Interest. None declared.

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2014 Regular Meeting was made by Member Henry, seconded by Member Morris. Motion carried (7-0-0).

Chair and Vice Chair Meeting Update

Chair Smith gave an update on the Chair and Vice Chair Meeting that she and Vice Chair Morales recently attended.

Outreach Update

Outreach Coordinator, Paulette LeBlanc, reported on her activities for March, April, and May. Ms. LeBlanc highlighted the success of the SEATA teacher's academy and applauded the first ever early childhood strand. She also highlighted the next Coalition meeting that will take place on November 6th. She proceeded to present her Community Outreach Plan that will focus on engagement using a worksheet to get council members' feedback on regional priority audiences and had council members select the areas they would like to participate in.

Needs and Assets Report Feedback

Director Elkins handed out paper copies and sent out electronic copies of the draft of the Needs and Assets Report and requested council member feedback and edits to be returned to her by the end of June.

Director's Report

Director Elkins gave a recap of the Central East Regional Area Forum that was attended by First Things First Regional Council Members, State Board Members and Staff. She also gave an update on the regional council seats that will expire as of June 30th. She provided council members with quarter three grantee data and encouraged council members to contact Administrative Assistant, Lacie, to register for the Summit in August.

Celebration of Council Members

Director Elkins presented signed copies of the book, *The Giving Tree*, to the termed members of the council and presented plaques to the council members who have served on the council for five years.

Regional Council Member Updates

Chair Smith updated the council on her program committee meeting which focused on fiscal policy recommendations to be presented to the state board.

Next Meeting Date, Time and Location

The next regular meeting will be held on August 11, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. at the Safford Library.

Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:10 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Shari Elkins,
Graham/Greenlee Regional Director

Approved:

Laurie Smith,
Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council Chair



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GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGION COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES June 2014

Highlighted sections are facilitated by FTF Supporters or Champions.

Date	Description	# of Partic.	Comments
June 1	Published an article, <i>Summer, the Ideal Time to Prepare for Kindergarten Success</i> , for the Graham County Schools Newsletter.		This article was pulled from the FTF Newsletter with quotes from the FTF CEO. Thanks for publishing, Donna.
June 2	Attended the Graham/Greenlee Early Childhood Coalition meeting held at SEATA.	20	JoAnn Morales took the lead on this event. We finalized a mission statement for the coalition. Most were new attendees. Our coalition is growing. This provides great visibility for FTF. Thanks, JoAnn.
June 2	Presented Early Childhood Every Day at SEATA.	10	ECE is a tactic for increasing engagement. FTF now has 10 new Supporters. This workshop was very well received.
June 2	Presented The Write Way at SEATA.	24	The Write Way moves people into the Champion category. I used the Supporters from the ECE training to get these attendees up to speed in 10 minutes before presenting The Write Way. This workshop received strong evaluations.
June 9	Attended the Graham/Greenlee FTF Regional Council meeting.		During this meeting, I facilitated a planning process for our council which provided direction for their Community Outreach Plan. I was given direction on contacts for our priority audiences. The Council made commitments to support FTF tactics for FY15. Thank you so much! I will be calling!
June 13	Attended the FTF monthly in-service meeting in Phoenix.		This in-service included a wonderful writing workshop, update on Faith Based Forum, and instruction on tracking my activities for FY15. We also participated in our first speed sharing activity. This is a great opportunity to learn about the successes of others.
June 17	Met with Shari and Laurie to discuss potential site tours for the Council and key community members.		More to come on this. I hope to facilitate two site tours during the summer.
June 19	Attended the Graham County Community Networking Team meeting.	18	Each month I try to bring different content to this membership. We had a readers' theater of 18 key points from the 2013 Building Bright Futures document published by FTF. Well

			received. They are now interested in having a copy of the document.
June 23	Worked with Julie Morris, Louise Welker, and Michelle Pursley to plan an ECE presentation to the Healthy Families Advisory Board.		These CFR ladies are graduates of Early Childhood Every Day. We will co-host the presentation to the board. All attendees are familiar with FTF. We will focus on early childhood and talking points on June 30 th .
June 24	Attended the Greenlee County Community Networking Team meeting.	7	See June 19 th descriptor. Well received. (Shari and I also took the time to visit Bright Horizons, the child care center in Morenci.
June 25	Published article, <i>Seizing the Summer</i> , for Safford Public Library distribution about preparing for kindergarten.		This article is available to all interested patrons and will be distributed at preschool story time sessions.
June 28	Attended the Child and Family Resources Early Childhood Conference.		FTF was one of the sponsors of this conference. This was a very informative conference. It was mostly attended by child care providers and preschool teachers from Pima County. Good sessions!
June 30	Presented ECE to Healthy Families Advisory Board.	14	CFR invited me to do this presentation. I utilized FTF Supporters from CFR to co-host. Thanks, Julie, Michelle, and Louise!!!
	Total	93	

Cumulative Report (July 2013 through June, 2014):

Earned Media: 9 newspaper articles (Quality First and 2 from Debbie Heaton referencing FTF; 2 Early Childhood Every Day ads, Holiday Gifts, Methodist QF trikes; *Early Literacy is a Team Effort*, Letter to the Editor for Week of the Young Child)

Newsletter Articles 24 (oral health; literacy; dehydration; food security; Quality First; childhood obesity; 2 *Little Lessons in Life* story; *Mr. Mom* story; 2 *Halloween*; *The Day After Story*; 2 *Basic Toys*; 2 Screen Time; *For the Love of Books* story; 2 oral health month; Soft Skills and the Workforce; *Week of the Young Child*; 2 *Learning on the Go*; *Seize the Summer*; Kindergarten prep.)

Stories 5 (Safford Library: *Little Lessons of Life*; *Mr. Mom*; *For the Love of Books*; Home Visitation: *Building Strong Families*; *One at a Time*; Quality First: *Sister Act*.)

50 presentations/events to 643 people

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette LeBlanc
Community Outreach Coordinator

For RPC: This concludes my work for 2014-15. The cumulative report above summarizes Community Outreach activities for the year. Thank you for the opportunity to serve the region in this unique capacity. I appreciate your ongoing support! Paulette



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GRAHAM/GREENLEE REGION COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES July 2014

Highlighted sections are facilitated by FTF Supporters or Champions.

Date	Description	# of Partic.	Comments
July 1	Published article, <i>Seize the Summer</i> , in the Graham County Schools Newsletter.		This article focused on helpful hints for parents preparing children for kindergarten. Quotes were included from Dawn Quintero , Pima kindergarten teacher. Thanks, Donna!
July 9	Published article, <i>Countdown to Kindergarten: Four Weeks Before</i> in the <i>Courier</i> .		This article focused helpful hints for supporting early literacy. It included quotes from Dawn Quintero and a photo of Gianna Brawley, a soon-to-be Safford kindergartener.
July 16	Published article, <i>Countdown to Kindergarten: Healthy Bodies = Healthy Minds</i> in the <i>Courier</i> and <i>Copper Era</i> .		This article focused on entering kindergarten healthy with recommendations for visits to the doctor and dentist, getting plenty of sleep and making healthy food choices. It included quotes from Paula England , Ft. Thomas kindergarten teacher and a photo of Dr. Gardea of Canyonlands and patient, Abby Welker.
July 23	Published article, <i>Countdown to Kindergarten: Learning Good Habits</i> in the <i>Courier</i> and <i>Copper Era</i> .		This article focused on talking to your child about kindergarten, answering questions, and practicing routines for the first day. It included quotes from Chelsea Adams , assistant principal in Morenci and former kindergarten teacher and a photo of Tristan Molina of Morenci, practicing his letters.
July 29	Attended Cultural Competencies training hosted by Child and Family Resources.	8	I had the opportunity to speak briefly about First Things First and distribute the new Graham-Greenlee Resource Guide (co-sponsored with Strong Families.)
July 30	Published article, <i>Countdown to Kindergarten: The Big Day</i> in the <i>Courier</i> and <i>Copper Era</i> .		This article focused on practicing routines and packing lunches, etc. for the first day of school. It included quotes from Georgia Sullivan , Safford kindergarten teacher and a photo of Amanda Welker and her daughter, Lillie, a soon-to-be Thatcher kindergartener.
	Total	8	

Cumulative Report (July 2014):

Earned Media: 7 *Countdown to Kindergarten* Series in the *Courier* and *Copper Era*.

Newsletter Articles: *Seize the Summer* (kindergarten prep)

Stories: 0

1 presentation/event to 8 people

Respectfully submitted,
Paulette LeBlanc
Community Outreach Coordinator

For RPC: This was truly a month of publication. It could not have happened without the ongoing support of David Bell, editor of the *Courier*. David was also instrumental in getting 3 articles published in the *Copper Era*. We are fortunate to have an editor who is supportive of ea



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08-11-2014 GRHGRL Attachment 3

AGENDA ITEM: Strategic Planning FY16-18 Timeline

BACKGROUND: The funding plan process results in a systematic approach to determining the strategies that will be implemented in the Graham/Greenlee Region's service delivery network for children and families for the next three years. The chosen strategies must link to past accomplishments and continue to: build on each other, support the State Board's priority roles; impact school readiness indicators at a local and state level; and influence the elements needed to create a sustainable early childhood system.

RECOMMENDATION: The Regional Director provides this as informational purposes only.



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08-11-2014 GRHGRL Attachment 3

Strategic Planning Timeline

August - Regional Assessment	September - Prioritization & Approaches	October - Prioritization Approaches	November - Implementation	December - As Needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting August 11th • Review of Needs & Assets Report, • Review of Strategies, Priorities, Needs & Trends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workgroup Meeting September 8th • Prioritize needs, approaches and funding levels to be presented to the council for consideration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting October 13th • Review and discuss workgroup recommendations for prioritized needs, approaches and funding levels. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting November 10th • Approve three year funding plan/strategic direction to be presented to the State board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra month as safety net - if anything flows over from prior months or if the council needs more time



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs & Assets Reports • FY13-15 Strategic Direction & Implementation • Data & Discussion from Benchmarking Reports/Data from Partners • Visioning/Big Picture • System Building Levers; quality partnerships, infrastructure & capacity, scope and scale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define areas of need • Prioritize – where should we focus our efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment of needs with SRI and benchmarks • Alignment of needs to FTF priority roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine approaches to take (funded/ unfunded) to address the prioritized needs and advance the early childhood system in the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set three year budget based on approaches • Implementation plans for unfunded approaches – system building efforts
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August 2014 Director's Report Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Council General Updates



New FTF Public Awareness Campaign

- You may have already seen the two billboards in our region as well as the commercials on TV. True to our statutory obligation, our first goal is to help raise awareness of and support for early childhood. Just as importantly, we also want to help raise awareness of First Things First as a trusted voice in early childhood development and health. Our approach to strategic communications doesn't rely solely on paid media. Rather, our paid media efforts are meant to complement our ongoing community/grassroots outreach, earned media and social media efforts across Arizona. Thank you to all of you for your tireless efforts in getting the word out in our communities each and every day!

New Council Members!!!

Kasey Ekman



Christie Rivera



Welcome

Kasey Ekman

Kasey is a native to Arizona and the Gila Valley area. She received her Bachelor of Science and Master's degrees from Arizona State University. She is certified by the Pediatric Nursing Certification Board in Primary Care Pediatrics. She and her husband John have four children and one grandson. When they are not busy shuffling between soccer games and karate events, they enjoy running and participating in 1/2 marathons and other events.

"My vision would be that every family with young children in our community would have greater access to and a greater desire to participate in well child visits."

Christie Rivera

Christie is the Director of the Bulldog Boulevard Preschool and Child Care Center. Christie graduated from Safford High School and the University of Arizona. Her most rewarding and greatest accomplishment is being the mother to a beautiful little girl, JuliAna.

"My mission is to help prepare children for a successful transition into society to be productive individuals. I look forward to this opportunity of volunteering my knowledge and insight to such a great organization as First Things First."

Strategy Updates and Quarter 3 Data Report

Strategy	FY2014 Allotted	FY2014 Target Service Units	End of Quarter 3 Actual Service Units	FY2014 Performance/Financial Updates and Significant Milestones
Home Visitation	\$120,000	20 Families	18 Families	Grantee served 90% of their TSU expending 74% of their award.
Parent Outreach & Awareness	\$110,000	300 Workshops 24,000 books	896 Workshops 18,616 Books	Grantee reached 299% of their TSU's through workshops and 77% through their book club, expending 71% of their award.
Food Security	\$10,000	750 Food Boxes	465 Food Boxes	Grantee distributed 62% of their TSU and expended 78% of their award.
Quality First Scholarships	\$94,000	68 Children 70 Slots	75 Children 66 Slots	Grantee distributed child care scholarships to 78 children, 114% of their TSU's.
Reach Out and Read	\$5,000	1,750 Books	1314 Books	Grantee reached 75% of their TSU, expending 51% of their award.
Oral Health	\$80,000	300 Screenings 300 Varnishes	358 Screenings 100 Varnishes	Grantee reached 119% of their TSU's for screenings and 33% for varnishes expending 17% of their award.
Reward\$	\$120,000	20 Incentive Awards	12 Awards	Grantee awarded 60% of their TSU's to scholars.

Graham/Greenlee Regional Partnership Timeline 2014

Month	Tasks
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (January 13th) • Funding Plan Summary and Presentation to State Board • Grantee Data Reports – 1st Quarter Data
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (February 10th)
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (March 10th)
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (April 14th) • Approval of Final Benchmarking Decisions • Grantee Data Reports – 2nd Quarter Data • Renewals
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (May 12th)
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (June 9th) • Grantee Data Reports – 3rd Quarter Data
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (July 14th)
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (August 11th) • FY14 Grantee Reports • Chair/Vice Chair Elections • New Council Member Orientation
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic/Funding Plan Workgroup Meeting (September 8th) • Regional Council Meeting (October 20th)
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SFY2016 Regional Allocations Announced by State Board • SFY2016 SFY2018 Strategic Planning and Funding Plan Discussions
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Council Meeting (November 10th) • Vote on Strategies and Allocations for SFY 2016 Funding Plan • Vote on SFY2016 – SFY2018 Strategic Plan • Grantee Data Reports – 1st Quarter Data
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting if Needed (December 8th)